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<b>Date:</b>	<i>December 14, 2004</i>
<b>To:</b>	<b>Examiner Victor Nguyen</b>
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<b>Fax Number:</b>	<b>(703) 872-9306</b>
<b>Tele. Number:</b>	
<b>From:</b>	<b>Ralph C. Francis</b>
<b>Company</b>	<b>Francis Law Group</b>
<b>Tele. Number:</b>	<b>510/769-9800</b>
<b>Atty Docket No:</b>	<b>ARC 2972 R1</b>

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FORM

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Total Number of Pages in This Submission

Application Number	09/978,769
Filing Date	October 12, 2001
First Named Inventor	Joseph C. Trautman
Art Unit	3731
Examiner Name	V. X. Nguyen
Attorney Docket Number	ARC 2972 R1

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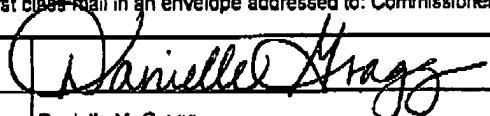
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: )

TRAUTMAN, et al. )

FOR: MICROBLADE ARRAY )  
IMPACT APPLICATOR )

SERIAL NO. 09/976,763 )

FILED: October 12, 2001 )

ART UNIT NO: 3731 )

EXAMINER: V. X. Nguyen )

Attorney Docket No: ARC 2972 R1 )

**AMENDMENT A**

Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The following remarks are made in response to the outstanding Office Action, dated November 15, 2004, in the above-cited patent application. Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested in view of the remarks.

Remarks begin on page 2 of this paper.